

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An information processing apparatus, for communicating with an external apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring, via the Internet, print setup information from said external apparatus;

generation means for generating print request information based on said print setup information acquired by said acquisition means; and

10 print request means for establishing communication, via the Internet, with said external apparatus for the transmission of said print request information,

wherein said print request information is  
15 generated by said generation means before said print request means establishes communication with said external apparatus.

2. An information processing apparatus according  
20 to claim 1, wherein said print setup information, which is information describing an output style, is available at a printer for the performance of printing based on the information included in said print request.

25 3. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storage means for storing said print setup

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information, and before communicating with said external apparatus using said print request means, examines said print setup information stored in said storage means to determine if said print setup  
5 information is newer than said print setup information that is available at said external apparatus.

4. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:  
10 derivation means for, before communication is established with said external apparatus by said print request means, employing said print setup information to derive the expenses that are to be incurred to obtain the printing results.

15 5. An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein, before communication is established with said external apparatus using said print request means, said derivation means employs  
20 print setup information available at said external apparatus to re-derive the expenses that are to be incurred to obtain said printing results.

25 6. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said print setup information is HTML data generated for said external apparatus, and said external apparatus manages said print setup

information for each output shop.

7. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said generation means is a peruser plug-in function, and employs the application communication function of an OS to generate said print request information for a document that is currently being edited by a document editor.

8. An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, for communication purposes, a dial-up connection is used to connect said external apparatus to the Internet.

9. An information processing apparatus comprising:

network browsing means for communicating with a server across a network and for displaying data received from said server;

acquisition means for acquiring information about said server and for storing said information at a client computer; and

display data generation means having a CGI function for employing said information held by said client computer and separately acquired HTML template data to generate HTML data that said network browsing means is capable of displaying.

10. A method, for controlling an information processing apparatus for communicating with an external apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring, via the  
5 Internet, print setup information from said external apparatus;

a generation step of generating print request information based on said print setup information acquired at said acquisition step; and

10 a print request step of establishing communication, via the Internet, with said external apparatus for the transmission of said print request information,

wherein said print request information is  
15 generated at said generation step before communication with said external apparatus is established at said print request step.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said  
20 print setup information, which is information describing an output style, is available at a printer for the performance of printing based on the information included in said print request.

25 12. A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a storage step of storing said print setup

information, and before communicating with said external apparatus at said print request step, examines said print setup information stored at said storage step to determine if said print setup information is  
5 newer than said print setup information that is available at said external apparatus.

13. A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

10 a derivation step of, before communication is established with said external apparatus at said print request step, employing said print setup information to derive the expenses that are to be incurred to obtain the printing results.

15 14. A method according to claim 13, wherein, before communication is established with said external apparatus at said print request step, at said derivation step, print setup information available at  
20 said external apparatus is employed to re-derive the expenses that are to be incurred to obtain said printing results.

25 15. A method according to claim 10, wherein said print setup information is HTML data generated for said external apparatus, and said external apparatus manages said print setup information for each output shop.

16. A method according to claim 10, wherein said generation step is a peruser plug-in function, and the application communication function of an OS is employed to generate said print request information for a document that is currently being edited by a document editor.

17. A method according to claim 10, wherein, for communication purposes, said external apparatus and said information processing apparatus are linked together via the Internet by a dial-up connection.

18. A method, for controlling information processing apparatus that includes network browsing means for communicating with a server across a network and for displaying data received from said server, comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring information about said server and of storing said information at a client computer; and

a display data generation step having a CGI function for employing said information held by said client computer and separately acquired HTML template data to generate HTML data that said network browsing means is capable of displaying.

19. A computer-readable memory medium which

stores a program for controlling an information processing apparatus that communicates with an external apparatus via the Internet, said program comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring, via the  
5 Internet, print setup information from said external apparatus;

a generation step of generating print request information based on said print setup information acquired at said acquisition step; and

10 a print request step of establishing communication, via the Internet, with said external apparatus for the transmission of said print request information,

wherein said print request information is  
15 generated at said generation step before communication with said external apparatus is established at said print request step.

20. A computer-readable memory medium according  
20 to claim 19, wherein said print setup information, which is information describing an output style, is available at a printer for the performance of printing based on the information included in said print request.

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21. A computer-readable memory medium according to claim 19, wherein said program further comprises:

a storage step of storing said print setup information, and before communicating with said external apparatus at said print request step, examines said print setup information stored at said storage  
5 step to determine if said print setup information is newer than said print setup information that is available at said external apparatus.

22. A computer-readable memory medium according  
10 to claim 19, wherein said program further comprises:  
a derivation step of, before communication is established with said external apparatus at said print request step, employing said print setup information to derive the expenses that are to be incurred to obtain  
15 the printing results.

23. A computer-readable memory medium according to claim 22, wherein, before communication is established with said external apparatus at said print  
20 request step, at said derivation step, print setup information available at said external apparatus is employed to re-derive the expenses that are to be incurred to obtain said printing results.

24. A computer-readable memory medium according  
25 to claim 19, wherein said print setup information is HTML data generated for said external apparatus, and



said external apparatus manages said print setup information for each output shop.

25. A computer-readable memory medium according to claim 19, wherein said generation step is a peruser plug-in function, and the application communication function of an OS is employed to generate said print request information for a document that is currently being edited by a document editor.

26. A computer-readable memory medium according to claim 19, wherein, for communication purposes, said external apparatus and said information processing apparatus are linked together via the Internet by a dial-up connection.

27. A computer-readable memory medium which stores a program for controlling an information processing apparatus that includes network browsing means for communicating with a server across a network and for displaying data received from said server, said program comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring information about said server and of storing said information at a client computer; and

a display data generation step having a CGI function for employing said information held by said

client computer and separately acquired HTML template data to generate HTML data that said network browsing means is capable of displaying.

5           28. A computer-executable program, for controlling an information processing apparatus that communicates with an external apparatus via the Internet, comprising:

10               an acquisition step of acquiring, via the Internet, print setup information from said external apparatus;

              a generation step of generating print request information based on said print setup information acquired at said acquisition step; and

15               a print request step of establishing communication, via the Internet, with said external apparatus for the transmission of said print request information,

20               wherein said print request information is generated at said generation step before communication with said external apparatus is established at said print request step.

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